

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION

In accordance with the foregoing, claim 16 has been amended. No new matter has been submitted.

The amendment to claim 16 merely incorporates a feature inadvertently not added in the previous amendment of claim 16, with that feature having already been submitted in a number of other pending claims. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the addition of this feature to claim 16 does not raise new issues nor require an additional search.

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22-25 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 103

Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22-25 stand rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being obvious over Kobayashi et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,522,330, in view of Ooishi, U.S. Patent No. 5,802,538. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

By way of review and as an example, independent claim 1 sets forth:

"A character processing apparatus which is connectable to a plurality of input terminal equipments and to a character information creating terminal equipment via a network, comprising:

a receiving section to receive a request for character information which relates to an external character from an arbitrary one of the input terminal equipments;

a code allocating section to allocate a code to the requested character information;

a control section to control creation of character information, based on the requested character information, within the character information creating terminal equipment; and

a setting section to set created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipments."

Independent claims 10 and 16, with differing scope and breadth, at least include similar features of setting created character information with respect to the allocated code, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipment, not

disclosed in Kobayashi et al., as acknowledged in the Office Action. The Office Action relies on Ooishi to disclose this feature.

However, it is respectfully submitted that Ooishi fails to disclose or suggest the claimed character processing apparatus which notifies the created character information to the input terminal equipment, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipment. Ooishi, among other things, also fails to disclose or suggest allocating a code to the character information requested by the input terminal equipment.

Upon a review of Ooishi, it would appear that the host computer 10 and the target system 11, respectively, could, arguably, correspond to the character processing apparatus and the input terminal equipment of the present application. However, it should be noted that the host computer 10 of Ooishi creates a custom character environment for a custom character group and sets the custom character environment in the target system 11. The cited columns 9-10 and FIG. 17 of Ooishi merely describe this setting of the custom character environment. There would not appear to be any disclosure or suggestion of creating the character information within the host computer 10 based on the requested character information from the target system 11, even if it is assumed, for arguments sake, that the host computer 10 of Ooishi functions both as the character processing apparatus and a character information creating terminal equipment. As illustrated in FIGS. 2-4, of Ooishi, for example, Ooishi merely sets the custom characters of the corresponding custom character environment necessary for generating the custom characters of the corresponding custom character group into the target system 11 from the host computer 10.

Thus, Ooishi fails to disclose or suggest the claimed character processing apparatus which notifies the created character information to the input terminal equipment, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipment. Further, Ooishi, also fails to disclose or suggest allocating a code to the character information requested by the input terminal equipment.

Therefore, even if features of Ooishi were modified into Kobayashi et al., the combination would still fail to disclose all the claimed features of independent claims 1, 10 and 16.

Regarding claims 5, 12, 14, 18 and 20, the Office Action has acknowledged that Kobayashi et al. at least fails to disclose or suggest the created character information being accessible from each of the input terminal equipment, as claimed in independent claims 5, 12, 14, 18 and 20, with differing scope and breadth. The Examiner relies on Ooishi to disclose these features, and indicates that it would have been obvious to modify Kobayashi et al. to include the same.

However, again, it is respectfully submitted that Ooishi fails to disclose or suggest a character processing apparatus that notifies the created character information to the input terminal equipment, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipment. Ooishi, among other things, also at least fails to disclose or suggest allocating a code to the character information requested by the input terminal equipment.

In Ooishi, it would appear that the host computer 10 and the target system 11 of Ooishi, for arguments sake, could correspond to the character processing apparatus and the input terminal equipment of the present invention. However, it is noted that that the host computer 10 of Ooishi creates the aforementioned custom character environment for a custom character group and sets the custom character environment in the target system 11. Columns 9-11 and FIG. 17, of Ooishi, merely describe this setting of the character custom environment. It is respectfully submitted that Ooishi fails to disclose or suggest the creating of the character information within the host computer 10 based on the requested character information from the target system 11. As may be seen from FIGS. 2-4, of Ooishi, for example, Ooishi merely sets the custom character environment necessary for generating the custom characters of the corresponding custom character group into the target system 11 from the host computer 10.

Thus, similar to above, it is respectfully submitted that Ooishi at least fails to disclose or suggest a character processing apparatus that notifies the created character information to the input terminal equipments, so that the created character information is accessible from each of the input terminal equipment, as claimed in independent claims 5, 12, 14, 18 and 20. Further, Ooishi, also at least fails to disclose or suggest allocating a code to the character information requested by the input terminal equipment.

Therefore, even if features of Ooishi were modified into Kobayashi et al., the combination would still fail to disclose all the claimed features of independent claims 5, 12, 14, 18 and 20.

For at least the above, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn and these claims be allowed.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

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If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

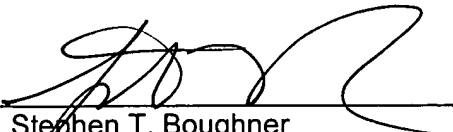
Respectfully submitted,

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